## iAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 0 6 JUL 2006 PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

ALBERTO ET AL.

Sorial No : Not yet assigned

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

Atty. File No.: 1696US

Title: METAL COMPLEXES HAVING VITAMIN B12 AS A LIGAND

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

## **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON JULY 6, 2006.

Barbara a. Krisch

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

For entry into the U.S. National Stage from the PCT, the above-identified national stage application is concurrently being amended as follows. Claims 11 and 14 are not being entered and are therefore cancelled from examination, Claims 17-23 are being added, and Claims 1-10, 12-13 and 15-16 are being amended. Accordingly, 21 claims (Claims 1-10, 12-13 and 15-23) are initially being presented for examination. Of those 21 claims, four (Claims 1, 12, 13 and 15) are independent. Thus, only filing fee believed to be due under 37 CFR 1.16(b) & (c) are a fee for one independent claim in excess of the allotted three, and a fee of one claim in excess of the allotted twenty. Accordingly, please charge a fee of \$250.00 to Deposit Account 13-1160 as the fee for entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

The above-mentioned revisions of the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which may be found on pages 2-6 of this correspondence. To assist the Office, a clean copy of the presented claims follows on pages 7-10 of this correspondence.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early notice of allowance is hereby requested. Should the Office believe that a telephone conference would expedite allowance, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mallinckrodt Inc.

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